

The Lancaster News

(SEMI-WEEKLY.)

JUANITA WYLIE... Editor
J. C. SHEPARD... Business Manager

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PLEASE TAKE NOTICE.
Henceforth all obituaries, cards of thanks, lodge notices, notices of all public affairs, charging admission, citations, executors' notices, notices of discharge, etc., will be charged for at the legal rate.

There has been some uncertainty in the minds of our friends as to what news really is. The items mentioned above are not news items, nor can we accept such items for publication except as advertising.

Weather forecast for South Carolina: Partly cloudy Friday and Saturday.

FRIDAY, JULY 23, 1915.

ADULT ILLITERACY.

With one great, compelling need overshadowing all other considerations, are we, as a people, trying as hard as we should to meet that need? In other words are South Carolinians in earnest, are they really working to overcome ignorance? The burden perhaps weighs more heavily upon some of us who live in those counties where the largest percentage of illiteracy prevails. There rests upon us who face the facts a very solemn duty. It is with shame that we acknowledge the condition that exists but greater still will that shame become if we do not remove the cause. This, we confess, is no easy task. Even our lawmakers have not been men enough to give us what is most needed to arm us for the fight against ignorance. We have no law adequate to compel all the children of the state to attend school, for the present law leaves it to their elders to decide the question of whether or not the boys and girls are to be educated. Were all of the voters capable of judging what is best for the children of South Carolina, there would be no need of compulsory education for every child would be in school. So many men, themselves illiterate, cannot see why their children should be taken by the state and sent to school. Under the present law those communities which are most in need of compulsory school attendance, must sit in darkness as before the law was enacted, because we might as well admit it—those friends of "the dear people," the politicians, have thus far been afraid to enact an adequate law. We hope that this defect will soon be remedied and that an out-and-out compulsory law may soon replace the present makeshift. We must all work unceasingly for the passage of a law that will meet the needs of our people.

But meanwhile there are adult illiterates whom we can reach and help. There are many men and women who only need the opportunity to learn to read and write. There must be night schools provided for those whose youth knew not the advantages of school and whose after lives must, therefore, be spent in darkness if we do not bring them the light.

In many respects, in most, we are proud to say, South Carolina is ahead of the Old North State, but in education, in that demand for a literate citizenship, in co-operation towards securing it, South Carolina falls behind. We need only ask our people to read the address of the great North Carolina educator, Hon. J. Y. Joyner, who is the superintendent of public instruction in that state, to convince them that his plan for North Carolina is the plan we need down here. It was our pleasure to hear Dr. Joyner deliver this soul-stirring plea for the adult illiterates of his state. Every word of it was spoken in downright earnestness. He has conceived a practical plan which if generally adopted will rid his state, or any other state, of its burden of ignorance. Let us consider Dr. Joyner's plan and apply it to dear, long-suffering South Carolina. This admirable address will be found in full on page 3 of this issue.

Perhaps the most interesting of all the events which will mark our Home Coming celebration will be the district Conference for the Common Good to be held in Lancaster August 10.

FOR THE COMMON GOOD.

In view of the District Conference for the Common Good, to be held in connection with Lancaster's first "Home Coming," we hope that the people will give especial thought to those things which seem to promise greater happiness and prosperity to this section. There are so many community problems which we might discuss, there are so many improvements, needed, but whatever work is suggested as a beginning point, there will be need of co-operation. It is important therefore that the people of this community come together in large numbers that day with minds and hearts open to receive suggestions and with wills to put these suggestions into effect. The spirit we need has been recently set before its readers very clearly by The York News, from which paper we take these words and commend them most heartily to our people:

"There is a new spirit abroad in the world. It is the spirit of democracy, the spirit of getting together, the spirit of co-operation. This spirit is finding expression in small groups, in clubs and lodges, in unions and federations and in a growing spirit of unity among the churches. It is beginning to seek embodiment in terms of a civic consciousness, in better national unities and in world policies.

"Because of the isolation and individualism of the smaller towns and cities this spirit is slow in finding means of expression. The smaller towns are social units of great importance, in some respects of more importance than the larger cities. The strongest and most aggressive men of the cities have come from the country or the smaller towns. The greatest men in the professions, the greatest leaders in politics and state craft, in industry and commerce have come from the country or smaller towns. The greatest man who ever lived came from the little town of Nazareth.

"It is possible to make these smaller towns places of greater influence and power.

"The old method of improving a town was to get some man of wealth and public spirit to give it a fountain, donate a monument or put up a library. These are all important, but it is far more important to do things that will develop a public spirit, a spirit of unity and furnish an opportunity and a channel through which this spirit may be expressed for the common good.

"The first problem of these smaller towns is to see themselves and their needs clearly. The greatest object of their citizens should not be to get as many dollars as they can, but to keep them as long as they can, but to build the best town they can and to produce the best type of boys and girls, men and women, the best churches and schools, the best forms of amusement and recreation and to boost with enthusiasm anything that will give an opportunity for community expression, to things making for the common good."

In some counties there is nothing to look forward to but the county fair, in others not even that. But Lancaster is to have a Home Coming celebration, a district Conference for the Common Good, not to mention other festivities, besides a mammoth county fair.

To shop successfully you must first read the advertisements in your local paper. All live merchants advertise, and their stores are the ones in which you will find the newest and freshest goods.

The open air services continue to grow in popularity. Not only in Lancaster, but in other towns and cities of the state, religious gatherings are being held out-of-doors.

Special trains from Camden and Chester will bring many of our neighbors from these places and many way stations to celebrate Home Coming in Lancaster.

We approve most heartily of good, clean, instructive motion pictures but public sentiment should frown on certain pictures shown in Lancaster this summer.

If you want something to read, go to the Lancaster Library in the Chamber of Commerce rooms. It is open Tuesday and Saturday afternoons.

Lancaster is getting ready to entertain hosts of long-absent sons and daughters at her first Home Coming celebration, August 10 and 11.

Discarded tin cans do not long remain empty but soon fill with water and mosquitoes have their origin in them. Swat the tin can.

"Let us have a more universal application of the compulsory attendance law, or a better law," urges The Columbia Record.

The war may have hindered the development of less-favored towns but Lancaster is fast growing into a progressive city.

Once again we rise to inquire what has happened to the flour mill proposition?

LETTER FROM THE WEST.

Mr. R. E. Wylie Gives His Impression of Texas Towns.

On Train Between San Antonio and El Paso, July 17.—My last communication to The News was written from Houston. Since then we have visited San Antonio, stopping there a day. This is the most interesting place we have seen so far. It has a mixed population made up of Americans, Mexicans and negroes. The chief place of interest, of course, is the Alamo, which is right in the heart of the city. It was in this building, used then as a Catholic place of worship, that the 175 brave Americans from different states, but mainly from Texas, held at bay Santa Anna's entire army for 11 days and did not surrender, holding out until all were killed. Travis, Bowie, Crockett and Bonham, officers in the Texas army, were among those who fell, the latter a native South Carolinian. There were only three survivors, Mrs. Dickinson, her little girl, afterwards known as the "Child of the Alamo," and a negro boy. It has been said that "Thermopylae had her messenger of death, the Alamo had none."

The fall of the Alamo took place March 6, 1836. The bodies of all the dead Americans were buried by the Mexicans. But it was only a few weeks afterwards that Santa Anna and his entire army surrendered to Sam Houston, near Houston, Texas, about 200 miles from the Alamo. It is a curious sight to see this ancient building standing in an open plaza in the heart of the city, but has first place in the hearts of all Texans, being their "cradle of independence." Not the United States flag, but the flag of Texas, with its "Lone Star," floats from the top of the building.

The South Carolinians who were killed and buried with the others were Capt. J. B. Bonham and Privates E. Nelson and George Neggin. But I have already devoted too much time, perhaps, to the Alamo, as there are other matters of interest I must speak of.

We took one of the sight-seeing cars to visit some of the old Spanish missions still standing, but now in ruins.

The San Fernando was founded in 1705, by the missionary fathers, but has been added to and used as a place of worship by the Catholics. It is in the city on the plaza facing the Alamo. Another is the Concepcion Mission, started in 1731, and completed in 1752. The most interesting of these missions is the San Jose, which is out in the country, about seven miles from the city. There is no wood work in these buildings except the stairways, which are hewn out of cedar. The buildings are of stone and earth and are arched over. The sight-seeing car we were in belongs to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Liebhold, he at the wheel and she with megaphone to do the lecturing, and she does it admirably. And in this connection I will say, the way to see things most satisfactorily is to take one of these nice sight-seeing cars as one thus gets more information in a short time than in any other way.

The San Antonio river winds for 17 miles through the city, but while called a river, it is about like Cane Creek, yet the water is clear and deep.

Another place of interest in the city is the Buckhorn saloon, where there is perhaps the finest collection of horns in the world. There is one deer head with 42 antlers. The longest steer horn measures nine feet and seven inches from tip to tip, while the smallest measures about 12 inches across. The collection was made from all countries and consists of deer heads, moose, rhinoceros, etc. There is on exhibition a 78-pronged Texas deer head. It is mounted on a shield forming a five pointed star, on which is spelled the word T-E-X-A-S. Another interesting curio is a large collection of rattlesnake rattles, numbering over 30,000 in all, making a fine display under glass. Of these 637 have been artistically arranged as a life-like picture of an antlered deer, also two Indian heads containing 1,199 rattles. By touching a button the tips of the horns are lighted up which displays the collection with fine effect. The collection is valued at \$50,000. The proprietor of the bar makes it pay for all visitors to the city go to the place to see the collection, the admittance being free, but the increased sale of drinks of all kinds adds to his income.

The Confederate monument in San Antonio is the handsomest I have seen. It is made of granite like ours and is surmounted by the figure of a Confederate private. It is about 60 feet high and was erected by the Bernard E. Bee Chapter of the U. D. C. The inscriptions are few and simple, one being, "Lest We Forget."

We left San Antonio last night for El Paso. The places on the road are many and interesting. The country is very rugged and mountainous. You can see cowboys on their horses with lassos, branding outfits, jack rabbits, etc. The houses are adobe which is brick made out of dirt by the Mexicans, put in moulds and dried in the sun. The land is said to be fine for pasturing, the cattle actually subsisting on the grass during both winter and summer, without other feed. The grass grows between the cacti and dwarf palms. The main drawback is the want of water, the land being generally arid. We have passed over a point where the elevation is about 5,000 feet above sea level, and the weather is not uncomfortably warm. The best farming section we have been through is between Houston and San Antonio. But the drought has hurt all crops. The corn is badly scorched and the cotton is "spotted." But the crops are diversified. You see a field of cotton and corn alternating

There is no hot-house method of developing a good sized Bank Account

Time alone will do the work. There's no rapid transit—its growth is accumulation. Happy indeed is the man who can say he owes no man anything. Happier still is the man who can proudly say "I have money in—
The Bank.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK,
UNITED STATES DEPOSITORY.
Lancaster, S. C.

with hay. The negroes are not as numerous as with us. We passed near where the Devil and Rio Grande rivers unite and run along together for miles but the waters do not mingle, that of the former being of a blue color and the latter red, making two of the colors of the flag, while the white sand between completes the tri-color effect.

As I close this communication we are still speeding on, being 1,000 miles from New Orleans and 1,400 miles from San Francisco. We will reach El Paso this afternoon and will stay over Sunday, leaving that night over the Santa Fe Railroad. We will stop next and take in the Grand Canyon in Arizona. We will reach Los Angeles about Wednesday. R. E. W.

FROM OTHER PAPERS

Good Advice.

If politics interferes with the development of your county or your state, cut out the politics.—Spartanburg Herald.

All Must Admit It.

Say what else you may of them, the Germans are standing before the world courageous and unafraid.—Augusta Chronicle.

Surely Not.

But not even the most fanatical prohibitionist would object to the mercury taking a drop.—The State.

Spot Shirt Independence.

It must be admitted, however, that the chap who wears the décolleté shirt is independent. He wears no man's collar.—Anderson Mail.

Same Here.

Dust crushed to earth by a shower of rain will rise again in a town where the street sprinkler has become an almost forgotten memory.—Henderson Gold Leaf.

Vacation Defined.

A summer vacation is a thin slice of rest between two thick layers of getting ready to go and being anxious to get back.—Valdosta (Ga.) Times.

Thanks for Amendment.

The Lancaster News is urging some of its neighbors to vote for bond issues and keep up with Charleston, Orangeburg, Lancaster, and she might have added Sumter, and a couple of others.—Orangeburg Times and Democrat.

Worth Trying.

If people would talk more about their concords and less about their discords, we would all get along better. Especially would this be true in community life, in church life and in school matters. Suppose you try it.—Waterloo Messenger.

Intolerant.

There are a few persons who delude themselves with the false idea that because they cancel a subscription to a newspaper they are hurting the paper. They are doing nothing of the kind, but they are proving themselves to be intolerant to the views and rights of others.—Dalton (Ga.) Citizen.

Living at Home.

With plenty of showers falling, blackberries in abundance, quantities of peaches and apples in the country, and the watermelon season just starting, the farmer is about ready to forget the war, the low price of cotton, the high prices of groceries, and is willing to live for a few months at home, and also to preserve and can much food for future use.—Anderson Intelligencer.

Shop Talk.

"This paper," says The Wadesboro Ansonian, "is published as a business enterprise. It has two sources of income, the subscriptions and the advertisements. Its news columns are for the people—that part of the people who subscribe for it. If you can use its advertising columns in your business, you are invited to do so, provided your business is legitimate. But don't ask us to print your advertisement as a news item."

Every publisher knows that it is mighty hard to get a great many people to realize that a newspaper is a business enterprise and should be so treated. These same publishers also know how hard it is to guard against advertisements getting into the news columns, and how often people are disposed to get offended for being refused this gratuity.—Salisbury Post.

Ah! the Invigorating Whiff of the Pine Forest!

How it clears the throat and head of its mucous ailments. It is this spirit of Newness and Vigor from the health-giving Piney Forest brought back by Dr. Bells Pine-Tar-Honey, Antiseptic and healing. Buy a bottle today. All Druggists, 25c.

WHO IS THE STRONGEST MAN IN TOWN?

Chances are he Feeds From Our Store

Pure Food Strength Builders are our AIM, and to get this result, Groceries must be Fresh, Reliable Brands and Handled with Care.

Fruits, Melons, Butter and Eggs, Olive Zest, Peanut Butter, Sunshine Crackers and Cakes, Cereals of all kinds are constantly coming in fresh every day at the

PURE FOOD STORE.

BENNETT-TERRY CO.

Our Leading Coffee—WHITE HOUSE—Also Caraja, Barrington Hall, Capitol, Chase and Sanborn's are Just as Good.

Twelve Reasons Why You Shou'd Buy Your Groceries of Us

No. 11.

BECAUSE we are careful with the little details of our business.

We fill telephone orders with exactness.

You get the right packages.

Such small things form the mountain of good service.

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Once You Were a Kid!

Don't deny the children. Give them plenty of crackers to nibble.

Our crackers will fill the bill for the kiddies. We carry them in boxes and loose.

There's a snap in our store in many other things besides crackers.



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